

Message Text

PAGE 01 ALGIER 00086 141718Z

70

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 096130

R 141648Z JAN 74

FM USINT ALGIERS

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0016

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBSSY TUNIS

S E C R E T ALGIERS 0086

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XI, AG

SUBJ: ALGERIAN REACTION TO LIBYAN-TUNISIAN UNITY
ANNOUNCEMENT

REF: ALGIRS 0079

DEPT PASS CAIRO

1. NEGATIVE ALGERIAN PUBLIC REACTION TO LIBYAN-TUNISIAN
UNITY DECLARATION (REFTEL) CAME IMMEDIATELY AFTER
PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE HAD MET WITH HIS CLOSEST ADVISORS.
CONSULTATIONS ARE NOW UNDERWAY HERE WITH REPS FROM
BOTH MOROCCO AND TUNISIA. BEFORE BOUMEDIENE DECIDES
HOW FAR HE WILL GO IN OPPOSING LIBYA-TUNISIA MERGER,
HE WILL PROBABLY STUDY REACTION FROM ARAB WORLD
AND ELSEWHERE AND TAKE SOUNDINGS WITH THOSE WHO
SHARE HIS SKEPTICISM.

2. OUR USUAL SOURCE OF INFO ON SUCH HIGH LEVEL
ALGERIAN DELIBERATIONS, PRESIDENTIAL CONFIDANT
ZEGHAR, LEFT ALGIERS EARLY MORNING OF DAY
FOLLOWING MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT. HOWEVER, FROM OUR
SECRET

PAGE 02 ALGIER 00086 141718Z

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE OF BOUMDEIENE'S VIEW OF QADHAFI'S
UNITY POLICY, WE ANTICIPATE THAT HE WILL BE EXTREMELY
SUSPICIOUS OF THE BOURGUIBA-QADHAFI AGREEMENT AND WILL
LET HIS IMAGINATION RUN FAR IN ENVISIONING DANGERS

CONFRONTING ALGERIA. SIX MONTHS AGO BOUMEDIENNE SAW POSSIBILITY THAT QADHAFI'S UNITY POLICY WOULD BRING EGYPTIAN THREAT TO SOUTHEASTERN FRONTIER OF ALGERIA. AT THAT TIME HE MIGHT HAVE WELCOMED LINE UP OF LIBYA WITH TUNISIA AS WAY TO DELIVER LIBYA FROM EGYPTIANS AND BRING IT INTO MAGHRED ORIT. NOW, HOWEVER, UNEXPECTED MERGER THREATENS TO REMOVE TUNISIA FROM LONG RANGE ALGERIAN INFLUENCE AND PERHAPS AT A LATER STAGE OF UNITY BRING EGYPTIAN FRONTIER TO WHOLE LENGTH OF ALGERIA'S EASTERN BORDER.

3. TUNISIAN AND OTHER EMISSARIES WILL TRY TO REMOVE ALGERIAN FEARS, BUT IF BOUMEDIENE IS NOT SATISFIED WITH THEIR EXPLANATIONS HE MAY WELL TRY TO SABOTAGE MERGER. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT ASSETS ALGERIANS HAVE IN TUNISIA AND LIBYA TO ACCOMPLISH THIS BUT RECALL THAT IN PAST THEY HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH MEMBERS OF LIBYAN RCC WHO WERE REPUTEDLY PLOTTING AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER TO OVERTHROW QADHAFI. EAGLETON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED USINT CAIRO.

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 27 JUL 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL STABILITY, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ALGIER00086
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750001-1013
From: ALGIERS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740175/abbrzbxl.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: ALGIRS 0079
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <16 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALGERIAN REACTION TO LIBYAN-TUNISIAN UNITY ANNOUNCEMENT
TAGS: PEPR, XI, AG, TS, LY
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005